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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1904.

Those Careful English.

There has just been a suit in the London courts over the question whether a grocer has any business to weigh tea in a bag, and charge his customer with the weight of the bag. It has been decided that this being the general custom of grocers, it is all right. Now the man who brought the suit alleges that dishonest grocers use "loaded" paper to make their bags, thus cheating the customer; and the matter is likely to be carried to one court after another, and finally into Parliament, with the result that grocers will be compelled to use paper of a certain standard weight. When this is compared with the carelessness of Americans in such matters, it does look as if the English people, with their dogged insistence on their rights, were ahead of us in some things.

But there is consolation in the thought that our carelessness in these matters arises from our advantages in the way of wealth and resources. England is a long settled country, and competition is fierce, and resources not abundant. This country has not got to the economical point. It is not very long since, in some parts of the United States, nothing lower than the nickel was recognized as a coin. If you dealt in pennies, people despised you. Even now, our currency does not divide into fractions as small in value as that of many other countries. We have nothing smaller than a cent.

Crackers and Mountaineers.

The "Post" draws a definite line between the Southern "cracker" and the Southern mountaineer, claiming that the two are quite distinct species, and that the mountaineer is "poor white trash" of the lowlands. This is true, but it is not true, as the "Post" goes on to say, that the two classes are alike descended from "criminals", and it is a good thing that Washington is not within shooting distance of the Cumberland, or there might be trouble.

It is true, of course, that the English white folk transported to "the Virginia plantations" in bondage were largely offenders against the law, but many of them were far from being criminals as we understand the term. Some were political or religious law-breakers, and some were guilty of petty crimes then punished by death or transportation. But in addition to these, there were numerous poor folk, all through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries—even in the early part of the nineteenth—who voluntarily became "redemptioners", and sold themselves for a term of years in order to avail themselves of the better chances which a new country afforded for earning a livelihood. Of course, they could not compete with the rich people who owned the large plantations, when it came to farming, and there was very little use for them unless they happened to be skilled mechanics. Hence they drifted into the unoccupied mountains, where they took up land and prospered in varying degrees. The really criminal classes, and those who had not enterprise enough to migrate, staid on in the lowlands, competing as best they might with slave labor, and in the majority of cases degenerating. They became the progenitors of the present "cracker", "poor white trash" or "clay-eater", having no incentive to improve their condition.

The mountaineer, on the contrary, did not degenerate. He remained ignorant, of course, in the majority of cases, since the public school was a thing unknown in the South before the war, and there are few public schools even now in some of the mountain districts. The private schools were too costly for him to give his sons and daughters their advantages, and only now and then did an ambitious youngster secure something resembling an education. These communities, largely of Scotch-Irish or pure English stock, are made up of people who are descended from the better class of poor immigrants to

Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia.—Immigrants who came to this country for the most part voluntarily, because there was not room for them and their ambitions in their native land. They have remained ignorant because there was nothing else for them to do. Stranded on the mountain ridges between rich plantation lands, isolated from other communities and from each other by the nature of the country, prevented from gaining riches by the poverty of the soil, what could they do but earn, at best a comfortable livelihood, and preserve their ancient trades of spinning, weaving, blacksmithing, and carpentering? This they have done, and they present today the singular spectacle of people of a pure stock, called from a Rip Van Winkle seclusion to meet the demands of the twentieth century.

A Needed Union.

In this age when everything is organized, down to the ashman and up to the skyscraper, it seems strange that any order of humanity should remain outside of the union. It may also seem odd that any one should advocate still another union, and still more strikes. But there is a need for such an organization, and the officer it strikes the better the public will feel.

We need an Amateur Musicians' Union.

This union should be made up of strictly non-professionals—people who never work for pay, and could not get it if they did. It should include all those who play on any instrument—piano, cabinet organ, banjo, jewsharp, phonograph, street piano,—in an amateur fashion. It is not necessary that music should be made, in the strict sense of the word; indeed, the production of true music would subject the producer to grave suspicion of being a professional. All those people should be eligible who play "Bedelia" more than once a week. The first thing which should be done is to establish a time limit.

As matters are at present, persons can play "Bedelia" for hours at a time, and keep it up until midnight if they want to, thus filling the air with an overproduction of sound. The fingers of the musician and the patience of the neighbors are sadly overworked. A moderate amount of recreation of this kind would be satisfactory to everybody.

Once organized, this union should have no hesitation about going on strike, and remaining out for any length of time. If necessary, it can draw on the next door neighbors for contributions to the fund, and in the majority of cases they will certainly be forthcoming. The presence of a real musician, or non-union workman, in any neighborhood should be good and sufficient cause for the Amateur Musicians' Union to refuse to work. It is unfair, unjust and improper for professional and amateur music to be mixed up with each other.

And there is still another reason for the formation of this union. Children are too often forced to learn the piano when they have no natural talent for it, and unless something is done to discourage this practice it will continue, to the woe of the child and also of the neighbors. Shall our innocent children be sacrificed to the wrath to come, or shall we, now and here, put a stop to the overproduction of chords and octaves? It is high time to act.

Solution of the Flat Problem.

For some time it has been evident that if the modern flat goes on shrinking it will in time fit a man about as his Jaeger suit of underwear does when it has been washed by the average laundress—that is, he may be able to get into it, but the most of his arms and legs will be outside. The desire for several rooms in a small space has resulted in apartments resembling first dry-goods boxes and then wardrobe trunks.

A solution of this problem suggests itself after a study of Japanese architecture. There are people who like small rooms, and there are others who do not. There are those who prefer a five room apartment with closets for rooms, and there are others who prefer one room as big as a barn. If they can get it. The only way to suit these different classes of people is to do as the Japanese do—have movable partitions.

When you go into a Japanese house you go into a building separated into rooms by screens. When you go into a modern flat you enter an apartment separated into rooms by lath partitions which conduct sound readily, but are immovable and stuffy in effect. Why not put in screens instead?

The bachelor could then hire a five room flat, shove the screens back against the wall, and have room in which to navigate whether he felt perfectly well or not. The modern flat is equal to the mzzz at Hampton Court when a man comes home at three o'clock in the morning, or, for that matter, when he gets up at three o'clock in the morning to see if a burglar is in the place. The wall always turns up where it has no business to be, and there are fewer doors and more rocking-chairs at that time of night than in the daytime. When the bachelor married he could begin to divide off his apartment into

rooms, and when the family increased, more screens could be introduced. Thus, instead of moving at intervals from room into flat, and from flat into house, the erstwhile bachelor could, when a grandfather, sit in front of the same steam radiator which warmed his lonely bachelor's hall, and know that children and grandchildren were snugly housed around him, each in a tightly fitting room. It would be any amount better than moving into the country, in the mind of any good cockney.

Why Spellbinding Is Unwise.

Judge Parker is under strong pressure to speak in all the States which can reasonably be called doubtful. His close friends have announced that he is determined not to speak at all, except to the members of his party who make pilgrimages to Esopus. And the dismay among Democratic leaders is great.

Yet Judge Parker's decision is in entire accord with present economic tendencies. In the old days, newspapers were local issues only—however much they dealt editorially with national affairs—and it was both necessary that the candidate should expound his convictions by word of mouth and possible for him to hear to each audience a new message. Today there is hardly a public man whose opinions have not been clearly expressed in print. Judge Parker is the only exception we call to mind and his letter of acceptance is expected to fulfill that purpose.

The modern maker of speeches is followed by the newspapers. His address in Kansas City tonight will be read in Washington, as in Kansas City, tomorrow morning. If ever he comes to Washington, then, either his address is already discounted or he must talk along new lines. In the latter event he has only the alternative between giving his strongest convictions a new oratorical dress and talking of subjects of secondary importance.

As long as personality has effect on the voter the candidate must be within reach of the voter. But it is questionable if even so winning a personality as that of Mr. Bryan offset the double disadvantage involved in his ceaseless drumming on the same ideas and his undisguised search for new ones. The campaign which presented Grover Cleveland as a candidate the third time was in many senses ideal. Neither he nor President Harrison appeared as a spellbinder, but the country did not lack for knowledge of their views.

Judge Parker's decision is, in our judgment, wise. He has erred, we think, not in refusing to imitate Mr. Bryan, but in resting too heavily on his judicial oars.

Points in Paragraphs.

Truth crushed to earth rises again in the form of the campaign lie.

We should like to have those visiting geographers explore the Potomac Flats.

Sometimes the straightest way to go after a thing is to go outcropped.

It is about time for the New York papers to print some more pictures of Bishop Potter.

It is suggested that wealth ought to insure a person privacy. Keep the wealth private, and it will.

The Commissioners are to begin their cementing of order to the Union Station with a temporary viaduct.

Washington would be glad for a few permanent maneuvers by the Blues and the Browns in the vicinity of Rosslyn.

The Vermonters seem to have saved Judge Parker the trouble of announcing the date of his retirement from politics.

The Dressmakers' Convention favors the establishment of a blacklist for untrustworthy customers. There is trouble ahead for husbands.

Watterson has bloomed again, and nothing will quite fit the occasion except an ode; but nobody but Watterson himself could write it.

Five New York boys are under arrest for creating an order to see the Highlanders beat the Quakers. Washington has blessings it never dreams of.

Mars Henry Watterson accuses the President of decking the machine with flowers and garlands, but we do not believe the President ever was a dressmaker.

Japanese soldiers are not allowed to write letters to their families, only to send a postal card printed with a rubber stamp. This will be sending home Russians printed with a rubber stamp before long. If things go on in this way.

BALLADE OF UNCONCERN.

Still higher goes the price of meat. With famine whispered in the air; But now we turn with joy to greet

A satisfactory solution has been found. No "substitute" to make us swear. No roasts made up of nuts and chaff.

No scrambled eggs at which to glare. Bring us a dozen on the half!

Here is the butcher man's receipt— It shows what he will do and dare; His charges take one off his feet.

And grow too great for us to bear; Of potted ham we've had our share. At corn and beans we now may laugh.

No tinned sardines you need prepare. Bring us a dozen on the half.

Farewell to carrot and to beet. To oats and other health food ware. To shrivelled hay and crinkled wheat.

For with an aspect debonair We hasten to our dining chair And read our hunger's epitaph.

Upon the menu waiting there, Bring us a dozen on the half.

LENOVOI. What for meat families need we care When oyster liquor we may quaff And once more get a meal that's square? Bring us a dozen on the half!

—Chicago Tribune.

IN SOCIETY'S CIRCLE

AUTUMN GOSSIP

AT THE CAPITAL
BOWERS IN ENGLANDSignor Montagna Expected
Here From Mexico.

ENTERTAINING GEOGRAPHERS

Italian Ambassador and Party Will
Visit World's Fair—Mrs. Tucker
Goes to Philippines.

Signor Montagna, of the Italian embassy, who was sent by the Italian foreign office to the City of Mexico last spring as charge d'affaires, is expected back in a few weeks. He took charge of the post in Mexico City on the departure of the minister, Count Vincini, and will remain on the arrival of that diplomatist's successor, Signor Nobili, who comes direct from important duties in the Italian foreign office at home.

Signor Montagna expects to meet Ambassador Mayor des Planches in St. Louis and return here with his chief.

Tadayuki Nasa, a delegate to the National Geographic Congress, is a guest at the Japanese legation.

The Italian ambassador and Signora Mayor des Planches are entertaining Signor Eulinski, counselor of state and representing the Italian government at the Geographic Congress. At the conclusion of the congress the ambassador and Signora des Planches contemplate a visit to the World's Fair.

Prof. and Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell, who came to Washington for the Geographic Congress, will return to Quebec in a few days. They are spending their Washington visit at Twin Oaks, the home of Mrs. Gardiner Hubbard.

Announcement has been made from New York, where William Waldorf Astor is at the moment, of the wedding of his daughter, Miss Pauline Astor, to Capt. Sponder Clay, which had been set for September 23, in London, has been postponed until some time in October in order that his visit to America may not be hurried.

Secretary Wilson is again in Washington, after a campaign tour through Maine and Vermont.

Mrs. John A. Logan has returned from an extended trip in the West, and will return to her country place for some time.

Mrs. William F. Tucker, wife of Major Tucker, U. S. A., and only daughter of Mrs. Logan, left Washington yesterday for the Philippines, where the major will accompany them, but their elder son, Logan Tucker, will remain in Alaska, where he is the manager of a large company.

Mr. and Mrs. John G. Price have returned to their apartments in the Plymouth, after a visit to Atlantic City.

Fred W. Carpenter, private secretary to Secretary Taft, will leave Washington tomorrow for Murray Bay, Canada, where he will be with Secretary Taft for about two weeks. Mr. Carpenter will return to Washington with the Secretary of War on September 25.

Harwood E. Read has returned to Washington, having spent the summer at Newport, R. I.

Miss Laura C. Campbell is a guest of Mrs. R. E. McKim at the latter's home in York Road, Baltimore.

Mrs. Mary Eleanor Barnum and Master Walter Livingston Barnum left Monday for a month's sojourn in New England, visiting their old home in Rutland, Vt.

Mrs. Hattie Works has returned to Washington after a visit to the Asbury Park, New York and Atlantic City.

Mrs. William J. Scherer of Massachusetts Avenue northeast entertained at luncheon on Tuesday in honor of Mrs. Richard B. McKim at the latter's home in York Road, Baltimore.

Mrs. C. H. Evans, Mrs. William Creamer, Mrs. Fardon, Mrs. J. H. Davis, Mrs. W. J. Brown, Mrs. J. J. Cavanaugh, Mrs. W. J. Price, Mrs. Charles Wagner, Mrs. K. Carroll, Mrs. J. H. Butler, Mrs. A. C. Scherer of Philadelphia, and Miss Lottie Evans.

Miss Mayme Boughman, of York, Pa., and Miss Annie Horstmann, of Stewartstown, Pa., are in the Capital visiting their aunt and are stopping at 10 Tennessee Avenue northeast.

FORM A FENCING CLASS AT NEWPORT

In order that the fall months at Newport may not be without diversion several of the prominent cottagers there have organized a class in fencing which will be conducted by Mrs. Baldwin Case, of Boston, who will go to Newport for that purpose.

The classes will be inaugurated by a series of lectures on physical culture, and among those who are already enrolled are Mrs. B. M. Grosvenor, Mrs. William T. Bull, Mrs. Perry Belmont, Mrs. Harry Lehr, Mrs. Pembroke Jones, Mrs. Burke Roche, and Mrs. William G. Roelker.

Miss Roosevelt yesterday concluded her visit to Newport and went to Oyster Bay to join the President's family. The past few weeks have been interesting for the President's daughter, for society almost overdid itself in an effort to entertain her. That she is in need of rest after so much society is evidenced by those who have followed Miss Roosevelt's busy and happy days during the summer months.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nelson Page are at the Waldorf-Astoria, Lenox, of Mr. and Mrs. John Sloane.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Geary Johnson and their son are at the Essex and Sussex, Spring Lake, N. J.

Bellamy Storer, ambassador to Austria, and Mrs. Storer, are guests at the Hotel Aspinwall, Lenox.

Prince Hatzfeld, of the German embassy, has sailed for Europe.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Patterson are among the conspicuous hosts at Lenox.

Superintendent Victim OF FIRST SUBWAY TRAIN

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The first victim of a subway train is Frederick Roebuck, who has been acting as superintendent of the Fourth Avenue division of the underground road.

He was inspecting work, failed to notice a train approaching, and before he could get out of the way it struck him.

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WASHINGTON BRIDE

WEDS IN ENGLAND

Boit-Horstmann Marriage
at Laleham.

ANNOUNCED A MONTH AGO

Several Home Weddings Mark the Ad-
vent of Autumn Days—Return-
ing From Seashore.

The marriage in England on September 7 of Miss Louise Horstmann and John Boit, of Washington and Newport, was announced in The Times a month ago, and was then a matter of surprise to Miss Horstmann's friends here. The engagement of these young people was announced shortly after Miss Horstmann, with her sister, Miss Ethel, and brother, sailed for England, but it was not thought the marriage would occur so soon.

Both Miss Horstmann and Mr. Boit are extremely popular in Washington. The now Mrs. Boit has a host of friends and is regarded as one of the most charming girls in Washington society. Mr. Boit is a prominent club man and an artist. He usually spends his winters in Washington, but joins the summer colony at Newport each year.

The ceremony was performed at Laleham, Middlesex, England, Mr. and Mrs. Boit will spend the winter abroad, but Miss Ethel Horstmann and Oden Horstmann are expected to return to America about the latter part of this month.

Mrs. Rella M. Reed and Olin W. Rookes were quietly married last night at the home of Mrs. Reed's father, East Commander Israel W. Stone, Department of the Potomac, G. A. R.

Only the immediate families of Mrs. Reed and Mr. Rookes were present at the ceremony, which was performed amid profusion of palms and flowers. The Rev. N. H. Miller, chaplain of the District of Columbia, officiated. Mr. and Mrs. Rookes are established in their new home, 1812 North Capitol Street.

One of the pretty home weddings of the week was performed on Tuesday evening when Miss Nellie Tarkington Furber became the bride of Ernest W. Davis. The wedding ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents, 124 Sixth Street northeast, by the Rev. Frank M. Gibson, assistant rector of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Miss Inez G. Farris, of Richmond, and Richard Furber, Jr., brother of the bride, acted as maid of honor and best man, and the aisle robes were gracefully carried by little Ethel and Evelyn Palmer. After a Northern trip Mr. and Mrs. Davis will return to Washington.

The Takoma home of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander MacAllister was the scene of a pretty wedding on Wednesday evening when their daughter, Miss Jeanette MacAllister, was united in marriage to Louis Edward Langille, of Kensington, Md. A number of young friends of the bride were graciously carried by little Ethel and Evelyn Palmer. After a Northern trip Mr. and Mrs. Langille will return to Washington.

Miss Laura C. Campbell is a guest of Mrs. R. E. McKim at the latter's home in York Road, Baltimore.

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PACIFIC OCEAN IS

IN TOWERING RAGE

Volcanic Disturbances Held Responsible

for Great Seas on Southern California Coast.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 8.—From many points along the southern coast come reports of damage by great billows which are rolling in from the sea, and which are caused by some phenomenon, possibly volcanic disturbances far out in the ocean.

While there is scarcely a capful of wind, great waves, in some instances forty feet high, roll ceaselessly against the shores.

Word comes that the wharf at Huey Island is being destroyed, and all street Terminal Island the sea has wrought havoc and hundreds of men are at work piling up sacks of sand to form breakwaters. Several cottages are inundated. At Long Beach and at Ocean Park the pleasure wharves have been much damaged. The heavy waves have been running for several days.

TO TAX STREET RIGHTS

SAME AS REAL ESTATE

BALTIMORE, Md., Sept. 8.—A legal bomb was hurled at corporations using the city's streets when City Solicitor Bruce laid an opinion with the mayor, in which he holds "easements, rights of way and franchises in, under or above the public streets are taxable as real estate."

If this view of the law of taxation is carried out, it will mean that all street railways, telephones and telegraph companies, electric light and gas companies, will be called upon to pay large additional sums in taxes.

RAILS OF THIS ROAD

MOVING TOWARD CITIES

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 8.—It has been discovered by electricians of the Wilkesbarre and Hazleton Railway that the third rail between this city and Hazleton is moving in the direction of Hazleton, at the rate of two feet a year.

Why this is they cannot explain, but they have watched and calculated the extent of the movement with deep interest recently.

The main rail is on the east side of the track. The switch and sliding rails, which are on the west side of the tracks, are moving toward this city.

AGAIN 100 IN SHADE AT FRISCO.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 8.—Intense heat prevailed here again today. The thermometer registering 100 degrees in the shade.

"BIG TIM" SULLIVAN

TREAS OF WASHINGTON

Bowery Statesman Probably Will Not Run for Re-election
in East Side District of New York.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—Representative Timothy D. Sullivan, known as "Big Tim" to every man, woman and child in the Bowery, has decided that he does not like life in Washington, and has practically made up his mind not to stand for re-election.

If he decides to retire, which last night seemed more than probable, he will give his place to William Astor Chanler, who was one of the young men taken up by Richard Croker.

Mr. Chanler has already served one term in Congress, having been elected over Lemuel E. Quigg in the old Fourth district, in 1898. This district was heavily Republican, and Mr. Chanler owed his election to the votes of Republicans who were in revolt against Quigg.

It has been no secret among the close friends of Representative Sullivan that he was disgusted with official life in

Washington. His appearance on the floor of the House was so rare during the last session as to cause surprise whenever he showed himself there, and he has several times indicated his desire to return to his old seat in the Senate, in Albany, where an individual member counts for more than in a Congressional minority.

During his long service in the Senate "Big Tim" formed many associations in Albany and he was seen frequently there last winter when his duties would naturally have demanded his presence in Washington. If he carries out his plan to return to the State senate, another place will be found for Senator Fitzgerald, who succeeded him.

Mr. Sullivan's contemplated change of base has become known in his district, and is a subject of much gossip among the politicians on both sides, who regard it as a matter that already has been fully decided. His friends declare that he really had no desire to go to Washington, and that he accepted the nomination only at the request of Charles F. Murphy.

REPAIRS DELAY

WORK OF COURT

City Hall Officials Fear Con-
tractor Will Fail.

PLANS HINDERED IN SPRING

Hoped That Room May Be Ready Oc-
tober 1 for Criminal

Court No. 2.

Officers of the Supreme Court of the District are expressing anxiety because of the backward condition of the work of repair and improvement at the City Hall, the home of the court. A large force of workmen are going along as rapidly as the nature of the work will permit.

It is, however, believed, to be impossible by many for the work in the different court rooms to be finished by October 4, the day of the beginning of the third term of court.

It is said that the delay in beginning the work was on account of the failure of Congress to make an appropriation for the purpose until near the end of the session.

The Plans Delayed.

Architect Wood was then so busy in connection with the House of Representatives committee room building that he was unable to give earlier attention to the repairs and improvements at the City Hall.

Nevertheless, the contractors in charge of the work, Richardson & Burgess, are confident they will meet the conditions of their contract.

It is part of the contract that at least one of the two criminal court rooms shall be ready for occupancy by October 1. The other, it is stipulated in the contract, shall be ready for use November next. It is understood that the efforts of the contractors are turned to completing the repairs in Criminal Court No. 2.

One of the improvements consists in raising the roof of the building over Criminal Court No. 2 in order to build a file room for the use of the clerk of the District Court of Appeals.